

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 IO-12 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /096 W
----- 107880

P R 190508 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3992

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC FT SMITH HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 6244

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN

SUBJECT: GOJ VIEWS ON RELATIONS WITH HANOI

SUMMARY: PRESS REPORTS THAT, FOLLOWING TOKYO CONFERENCE OF JAPANESE AMBASSADORS TO INDO- CHINA STATES, GOJ HAS DECIDED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS SOON TO OPEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH HANOI. HOWEVER, FONOFF HAS ASSURED EMBASSY THAT GOJ HAS NO INTENTION OF MOVING QUICKLY AND WILL NOT PROCEED WITHOUT DISCUSSING ISSUE FURTHER WITH USG. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPANESE AMBASSADORS TO SAIGON, PHNOM PENH AND VIENTIANE WERE SUMMONED TO CONFERENCE IN TOKYO MAY 17-18 WITH SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS FUTURE GOJ POLICY TOWARD INDO- CHINA STATES. AT CONCLUSION OF CONFERENCE, ASIAN AFFAIRS DIRGEN YOSHIDA MET WITH PRESS, WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY PUBLISHED FOLLOWING VERSION OF CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS.
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2. PRESS SAID CONFEREES " DID NOT SEE ANY MAJOR IMPEDIMENT" TO JAPAN' S ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DRV AND THEREFORE GOJ IS EXPECTED TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS SOON. PRESS QUOTED YOSHIDA AS SAYING THAT, JUDGING FROM RECENT ATTITUDE OF GVN TOWARD COUNTRIES WHICH ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH HANOI, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT GVN WOULD OPPOSE JAPANESE EFFORTS TO FOLLOW SUIT. THIS IS PARTIALLY BECAUSE SAIGON IS NOW CONSCIOUS OF ITS OWN POWER AND NO LONGER AFRAID OF HANOI' S INFLUENCE. WITH RESPECT TO TIMING OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, YOSHIDA WOULD ONLY SAY THEY WOULD BE " REALIZED IN NEAR FUTURE".

3. FONOFF AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRGEN OKAWARA CALLED DCM AFTER PRESS CONFERENCE TO INDICATE HE THOUGHT PRESS MIGHT HAVE MISINTERPRETED SOME OF YOSHIDA' S REMARKS. OKAWARA SAID GOJ IS WELL AWARE OF RECENT CONVERSATIONS IN WASHINGTON AMONG MESSRS. USHIBA, YAMAZAKI, SULLIVAN AND SNEIDER, AND THEREFORE OF USG CONCERNS THAT PRESSURE BE KEPT ON HANOI TO LIVE UP TO PARIS AGREEMENTS. OKAWARA SAID HE WISHED TO REASSURE EMBASSY THAT, DESPITE WHATEVER PRESS MIGHT REPORT ABOUT YOSHIDA' S PRESS CONFERENCE, GOJ HAS NO INTENTION OF MOVING QUICKLY TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DRV, AND GOJ WILL IN ANY CASE NOT PROCEED IN THAT DIRECTION WITHOUT DISCUSSING SUBJECT FURTHER WITH USG.

4. EMBASSY WILL SEND FULL REPORT ON AMBASSADORIAL DELIBERATIONS AFTER FONOFF BRIEFING EXPECTED EARLY NEXT WEEK.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO06244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730551/aaaajorc.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Nov-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980226
Subject: GOJ VIEWS ON RELATIONS WITH HANOI
TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN
To: CINCPAC FT SMITH HAWAII
EA
PHNOM PENH
SAIGON
SECSTATE WASHDC
VIENTIANE
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005